

Request for Proposal
for
**Research Study on Impact of Revisions
to NSC 6 Vision Standard**

CANADIAN COUNCIL OF MOTOR TRANSPORT ADMINISTRATORS (CCMTA)

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1. Background

The Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators (CCMTA) provides national coordination on matters related to road safety and motor vehicle regulation. A core responsibility of CCMTA is the maintenance of the [National Safety Code \(NSC\) Standard 6 – Determining Driver Fitness in Canada](#).

NSC 6 provides a nationally harmonized medical framework used by all provinces and territories to determine driver medical fitness. It is designed specifically for provincial and territorial licensing authorities and establishes both:

- An administrative model for screening, assessment, and reassessment of driver medical fitness; and
- Comprehensive medical standards addressing conditions that may compromise safe vehicle operation, including cardiovascular, neurological, metabolic, psychiatric, hearing, and vision-related conditions.

The Drivers Fitness Oversight Group (DFOG), a national expert committee composed of medical professionals and provincial/territorial driver fitness administrators, is formally mandated by the CCMTA Board under the Driver Programs and Standards Committee (DP&S) to develop, maintain, and update NSC 6. DFOG ensures that standards remain evidence-based, reflect current clinical guidance, and are applied consistently.

As part of CCMTA's ongoing maintenance cycle for NSC Chapter 22, Vision Impairment has recently undergone a fulsome review. Five updates are being considered to improve clarity, alignment, and interpretability of existing requirements. These changes primarily:

- Streamline and modernize visual acuity requirements;
- Enhance clarity and consistency in visual field standards; and
- Reorganize guidance related to monocularly and depth perception.

While these revisions are not intended to materially alter underlying safety expectations, any modification to a national medical standard requires careful consideration of operational, regulatory, safety, and stakeholder implications.

Consistent with CCMTA's governance approach to NSC 6 maintenance, this impact study will complement the medical rationale developed by DFOG and informed by consultation expert medical associations.

The purpose of this impact report is to provide a structured, risk-based analysis addressing:

- The potential safety implications of the proposed revisions;
- The scale of potential impact on currently restricted drivers;
- Operational and administrative impacts for licensing authorities and medical professionals;
- Legislative or regulatory implications across jurisdictions;
- International comparability and reciprocity considerations; and
- Potential public and industry perceptions or risks.

This work does not presuppose any policy decision. Rather, it is intended to ensure that any consideration of amendments to NSC 6 is supported by a complete, transparent,

and evidence-informed decision-making package for the Driver Programs and Standards Committee (DP&S) and the CCMTA Board.

Through this impact assessment, CCMTA continues its structured maintenance approach to NSC 6; ensuring that Canada's medical standards for drivers remain current, harmonized, operationally feasible, and aligned with national road safety objectives.